A

RELATION

Of the Re-taking of the

ISLAND

OF

S^TA HELENA,

And Three

Dutch East-India SHIPS.

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RELATION

Of the Re-taking of the ISLAND *of* STA HELENA, *and Three Dutch* East-India *Ships.*

IN the Fourth of *May* laſt in the Morning; We came in ſight of the Iſle of *Stæ. Helenæ*; in two hours after, We had concluded what to do, for the Re-taking of the Iſland, and Ordered 200 Men, with Field-Colours and Officers, appointed to be put on Board a Veſſel, out of which they might be Landed, whilſt We Attacked the Ships in the Road, in caſe there ſhould be any there; About 11. in the Forenoon, the *Aſſiſtance* Fregat made Sayl, that we might be near in the night, to diſcover the Strength of the Road, the reſt of our Ships having furled all their Sayls, lay ſo till the Evening, and came in to Us in the Night; The next Morning about ſeven of the clock, all our Ships being to Windward of the Iſle about five Miles, Our Boat came on Board, and told us, That the Road was clear, ſo We immediately put 200 Men more on Board the *Caſtle* Fireſhip, and left her and the other Veſſel to Land our 400 Men, to Windward of the Iſland, in *Proſperous Bay*; The four

four Men of War, made Sayl for the Forts, againſt which We Anchored about one in the Afternoon, and after four hours Diſpute, went to the Weſtward, and there let go our Anchor again, being confident our Men muſt be Landed, and Gained the Hills before that time, and that by the next Morning We might expect them on the back of the Forts, againſt which time it was reſolved, to have the *William* and *Thomas*, and one Ship more, cloſe under the Fort. The Dutch no ſooner ſaw us come up again, and that We did not intend to leave them, but they came off and yielded the Iſland, upon condition, That they might not be Stripped, which We accepted, they not yet knowing of any Army that We had Landed; At Sun-ſet We took Poſſeſſion of *James Fort*, and diſpatched a Trumpet to Captain *Keigwin*, Commander of our Land Force, to acquaint him with what had paſſed, to prevent any Injury that might be done to the Iſle by our Men, in their March to the Fort. On the Eleventh, between ſeven and eight in the Evening, a Ship appeared in ſight, with a Flag aloft, which We cut after, and by eleven at night, came up with her, and took her, which proved one of the Dutch *Eaſt India* Fleet, ſent before with the new Governor for *St. Helena*. On the 26 early in the Morning, We ſaw our Flags on the Mount hoiſted, which gave us an Account, That there were ſix Sayl in ſight; About ten in the forenoon We had Advice, that four were coming one way, and two the other, who immediately appeared in ſight, at both ends of the Iſland; They no ſooner ſaw us, but clapped by a Wind, and We after them; The *Aſſiſtance*, the *William* and *Thomas*, and the *Caſtle* Fireſhip to the Eaſtward, with one Merchant Man, after Four; The *Mary* and *Martha*, with two Merchant Men, to the Weſtward, after Two; but it being a very hard Gale, We could do nothing on them; At night the *Aſſiſtance* got up with their Vice-Admiral, and the *William* and *Thomas* with their Admiral, whom they kept company all night, and the 27. in the Morning took them, but not in company one with the other, every Ship Steering his own Courſe, believing by that, to loſe us. The ſaid four Men of War, Fireſhip, and three Dutch *Eaſt-India* Prizes, together with five *Engliſh Eaſt-India* Ships, who came in Company with the Men of War, are ſince ſafely arrived.

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